

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037040
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IGA-02 L-03
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DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:DRKEENE:RF
APPROVED BY PM/SAS - FCORRY
NEA/ARP - MS. BODINE
DOD/DSAA - MR. BECKER
-----130288 120740Z /14

R 111846Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO SECDEF
CHUSMTM DHAHRAN
SANG PMO RIYADH
DAVENGR RIYADH
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037040

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJECT: REDUCING SAUDI MISUNDERSTANDING OF FMS PROCESS

REF: A) JIDDA 481 B) JIDDA 705

1. DEPARTMENT FAVORS ANY PRACTICAL STEPS THAT WOULD
REDUCE MISUNDERSTANDING THAT ARISE OVER FMS CASES. WE
THEREFORE WELCOME EMBASSY'S SUGGESTIONS AND HAVE A FEW OF
OUR OWN ON WHICH WE WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY COMMENT.

2. THERE IS CURRENTLY A DEFENSE SECURITY ASSISTANCE MANAGE-
MENT COURSE FOR FOREIGN OFFICERS (SAM-F) AVAILABLE AT THE
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DEFENSE INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT (DISAM),
WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB THAT SEEMS TO FULFILL ROUGHLY THE SAME
FUNCTION AS THE FMS SEMINAR PROPOSED REFTTEL A. THE COURSE
RUNS FOR NINE CLASS DAYS WITH A MAXIMUM OF THIRTY STUDENTS
AND COVERS FMS POLICY, PRICING, PROCUREMENT, FINANCING,
SECURITY ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION, MUNITIONS CONTROL PRO-

CEDURES, PLANNING REQUESTS, ETC. FYI - ONE SAUDI STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN CLASS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JULY 31. END FYI.

3. USMTM COULD ORGANIZE FMS SEMINARS IN COUNTRY UTILIZING PERSONNEL FROM ALL ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE FMS EXPERIENCE. EMBASSY PERSONNEL COULD PARTICIPATE AS APPROPRIATE. IDEALLY,

SEMINARS MIGHT BE SCHEDULED TO INCLUDE PARTICIPATION BY VISITORS FROM WASHINGTON/DOD COMMANDS WHO ARE IN-COUNTRY.

4. ALTERNATIVELY, OR SUPPLEMENTAL TO ANY USMTM EFFORT, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO SEND MTT'S TO PARTICIPATE IN IN-COUNTRY PROGRAM.

5. WE AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF MODA ASSIGNED OFFICERS TO THE SAUDI MILATT'S OFFICE BUT THIS IS UP TO THE SAG. QUALITY AND BACKGROUND OF INDIVIDUALS ASSIGNED AS WELL AS THEIR ABILITY TO BE HEARD IN MODA WOULD OF COURSE BE MOST IMPORTANT.

6. WE REALIZE THAT ALL MISUNDERSTANDINGS WILL NOT DISAPPEAR BUT WE NEVERTHELESS ENCOURAGE STEPS SUCH AS THESE WHICH, AT THE LEAST, WILL DEMONSTRATE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT ON OUR PART TO RESPOND TO SAUDI COMPLAINTS. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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